

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

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TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY

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TAGS: EFIS, BU

SUBJECT: BULGARIAN FISHERY ALLOCATION FOR 1978

REF: SOFIA U932

1. IN RESPONSE TO PULGARIAN CONCERNS OUTLINED REFTTEL, EMBASSY MAY MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) IN 1977, BULGARIA RECEIVED A LARGE (4,000 TON) ALLOCATION FOR A DIRECTED FISHERY FOR MACKEREL. IN 1978, NOT ONLY WAS MACKEREL ENTIRELY ELIMINATED AS TARGET SPECIES FOR DIRECTED FOREIGN FISHING, BUT QUANTITY AVAILABLE FOR ASSIGNMENT AS BYCATCH IN OTHER DIRECTED FISHERIES (SUCH AS HAKE), WAS SEVERELY RESTRICTED. 1977 AND 1978 CONDITIO4S ARE THEREFORE NOT COMPARABLE. (B) THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT BYCATCH ALLOCATIONS FOR 1978 ARE CONSIDERABLY MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN 1977. THE OBJECTIVE IS TO MAKE FOREIGN DIRECTED FISHERIES MORE SPECIFIC AND TO ENCOURAGE USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGY TO ACCOMPLISH SELECTIVITY. (C) DEPARTMENT REGRETS THAT BULGARIAN EXPERIENCE HAS RESULTED IN TERMINATION OF THEIR
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1978 FISHERY OFF U.S. COAST. EFFORTS WILL BE MADE DURING 1979 ALLOCATION PROCESS TO PROVIDE SOME INCREASED BYCATCH ALLOCATIONS TO FOREIGN NATIONS WHERE DEMONSTRATED NEED EXISTS. FUNDAMENTAL PHILOSOPHY OF U.S. FISHERY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES CANNOT, HOWEVER, BE EXPECTED TO CHANGE, AND

WE STILL ANTICIPATE TIGHT BYCATCH LIMITATIONS FOR MOST

SPECIES. FOR BALANCE OF 1978 DEPARTMENT CAN HOLD OUT
LITTLE HOPE OF AVAILABILITY OF ADDITIONAL BYCATCHES
THAT WOULD PERMIT RESUMPTION OF BULGARIAN FISHERIES. CHRISTOPHER

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